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of Madras itself and will the Government see that when a rule is prescribed by the Government it is applicable to all the employees equally?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir. Rules are equally applicable to all."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" I will clarify, Sir. It seems that the Hon. Minister was not in a position to understand my question. There are some Malayalee merchants who are keeping accounts in Malayalam even in the City of Madras. These Commercial Officers are expected to verify these accounts. If it is not properly verified, the revenue of the Government will be lessened. Therefore, is it not good that even the officers who know only Tamil are required to know Malayalam also, as prescribed by rules? Therefore I ask the Government whether they will see that these employees pass the two languages?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The Government will look into it."

Drinking water wells for Harijans.

* 1467 *Q.*—SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have revised their policy by withdrawing the order exempting the Harijans from the payment of 25 per cent of the cost of construction of drinking water-supply works for them;

(*b*) how many water wells were sunk in the South Arcot district for Harijans in 1954; and

(*c*) how many wells will be completed before the end of March 1955?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No. Sir.

" (*b*) Twenty-four wells have been sunk in the South Arcot district for the use of Harijans in 1954.

" (*c*) Of 139 well works in progress, 25 are likely to be completed before the end of March 1955."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, we are told that 50 per cent of the funds provided under the local board schemes are to meet the rural water-supply schemes. Are the wells intended for Harijans to be met from this or are there separate funds provided?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the wells are meant for all people."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" In the matter of Hill Tribes living up the hills and mountains, the maximum amount allotted for expenditure on a well, namely, Rs. 500 or thereabouts is altogether inadequate. For, the wells have to be deep and the

poor peole are living up the hills. Would Government revise the maximum amount in such cases and leave the discretion to the Revenue Divisional Officer or other local officers, so that Harijans may really take advantage of this allotment? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not aware of any such limit being put upon the expenditure to be incurred on wells. If there is any, I shall have the matter examined."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question Nos. 1468 and 1469 may be taken together."

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in Kodoth village.

* 1468 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code was promulgated by the Local Magistrate in Kodoth village in Kasargode taluk, South Kanara district prohibiting public meetings from 18th January 1955; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in the printed answer placed on the table of the House, it is stated that the karnavan of the Kodoth family filed a petition in the police station . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The matter is *sub judice*. I will advice the Member that till the case is over, let us not take up further questions here."

* 1469 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar, M.L.A., and three peasant leaders were arrested by the police on 15th January 1955 at Kodoth village, Kasargode, South Kanara; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar, and some others were arrested as stated in the question.

" (*b*) It is reported that they defied orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code and that they were arrested under sections 143 and 188 of the Indian Penal Code. Further details cannot be given as the matter is *sub judice*."

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 1177 infra.